

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim Amendments

The Applicant has amended claims 4, 11 and 13. Applicant respectfully submits no new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-13 and 15-25 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Examiner Objections - Claims

Claims 4, 11, and 13 were objected to because of informalities. The Applicant appreciates the Examiner's thorough review of the claims. The Applicant has amended the claims as suggested by the Examiner in order to correct the informalities. The Examiner's consideration of the amended claims is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

Claims 1, 3-4, 13, and 16-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nikander (GB 2367986 A) in view of Fox, et al. (US Patent 5,790,677 and Fox hereinafter). The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of these claims.

The present invention discloses an authentication scheme for handling individual members of a multicast group, upon leaving and joining the group, so that the members can access the multicast content when they join and be prevented from accessing the content when they leave the group. The scheme uses the member's public-private key and IPv6 address, transmitted to a group controller by the member, to confirm that the public key is associated with the member's IPv6 address and the member is at the address.

The object of the Nikander reference is to provide a means for proving ownership of an IP address. Nikander discloses application of a coding function to components received from a host and comparing the results against the interface identifier part of the IP address. If the results match the interface identifier, the host is then assumed to be authorized to use the IP address and if no match, the host is not authorized.

The Nikander reference fails to disclose the use of the digital signature to further verify that the candidate member (actually, terminal) owns the public-private key pair to which the public key belongs and that the candidate member terminal owns the source IP address.

The Fox reference also fails to disclose Multicast so there is no invitation to join a multicast group. The referenced portion of Fox; “[A]n application tailored to the particular commerce environment can be distributed to the participants to assist them in gathering and submitting the information required by the certified trusted authority.” does not appear to be an invitation. More of a registration Furthermore, the application is distributed but it is unclear if it is automatic or upon request. Similarly, it is unclear what “location” means. Fox also does not disclose that the candidate terminal owns the source IP address. So it can not be used to avoid denial of service attacks in an early phase of the negotiation (page 9, last sentence). Therefore, the allowance of claims 1, 3-4, 13, and 16-17 is respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 5-6, 15, and 18-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nikander in view of Fox as applied to claims 1, 13 and 17 above, and further in view of Caronni et al (US Patent 6,049,878 and Caronni hereinafter). The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection these claims.

As noted above, Nikander and Fox do not disclose certain limitations with regard to claims 1 and 13. The Caronni reference lacks these same limitations and the Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2, 5-6, 15 and 18-19 are thus allowable over Nikander, Fox and Caronni. Therefore, the allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

Claims 7-9, 20-22 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wesley et al (US Patent 6,275,859 B1 and Wesley hereinafter) in view of Caronni and Fruehauf et al (US Patent 7,149,308 B1 and Fruehauf hereinafter). The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of these claims.

Claims 7 and 20 include limitations not found or taught in either Wesley or Caronni or a combination of the two, specifically the digital signature that is generated by applying an algorithm and the user's (terminal's) private key to the contents of the certificate. And, then a proof-of-possession procedure, based on the private key is used to verify ownership of the certificate. The Fruehauf reference is cited for distributing security keys using a key revocation based mechanism. However, the Wesley and Caronni references are lacking the previously cited limitations and Fruehauf does not disclose these limitations. The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of these claims.

The Applicant respectfully submits that claims 7 and 20, as amended, are patentable over the Wesley, Caronni and Fox references, as are the respective dependent claims 8-9, 21-22 and 25. The allowance of claims 7-9, 20-22 and 25 are respectfully requested.

Claims 10 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wesley in view of Caronni and Fruehauf as applied to claims 7 and 20 above, and further in view of Nikander. The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of these claims.

The Applicant previously noted that Wesley and Caronni fail to provide limitations that are not disclosed by Nikander. Fruehauf also fails to disclose these limitations. Since these four references fail to provide all the limitations claimed in the independent claims from which claims 10 and 23 depend, the Applicant respectfully requests the allowance of claims 10 and 23.

Claims 11-12 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wesley in view of Caronni and Fruehauf as applied to claims 7 and 20 above, and further in view of Chow et al (US 2003/0053434 A1 and Chow hereinafter). The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of these claims

The Applicant previously noted that Wesley and Caronni fail to provide limitations that are not disclosed by Nikander. Fruehauf and Chow also fail to disclose these

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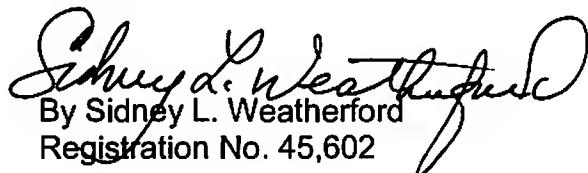
limitations. Since these four references fail to provide all the limitations claimed in the independent claims from which claims 10 and 23 depend, the Applicant respectfully requests the allowance of claims 10 and 23.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

The Applicant requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,


By Sidney L. Weatherford
Registration No. 45,602

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Ericsson Inc.
6300 Legacy Drive, M/S EVR 1-C-11
Plano, Texas 75024

(972) 583-8656
sidney.weatherford@ericsson.com